

## **TIMES BEACH SITE**

**MISSOURI**

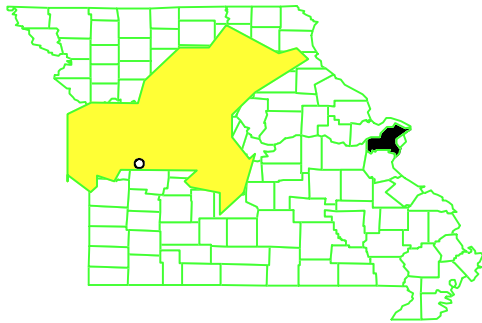
**EPA ID# MOD980685226**

**EPA Region 7**

**City: City of Times Beach**

**County: St. Louis County**

**Other Names:**



## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The 1-square mile Times Beach site is located 20 miles southwest of St. Louis. The site is a formerly incorporated city whose road system was sprayed with waste oil for dust control in the early 1970s. The oil later was found to be contaminated with dioxin during an investigation by the EPA in 1982. During the same period, the nearby Meramec River flooded the city, and residents were forced to evacuate their homes. Subsequently, the Centers for Disease Control recommended that the residents who had been evacuated, as well as those who had returned following the 1982 flood, be permanently relocated. The EPA transferred funds to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the permanent relocation of residents and businesses in 1983. By the end of 1986, all residents were relocated permanently. Upon completion of the permanent relocation, title to the site was conveyed to the State of Missouri. In 1997, cleanup of the site had been completed. The site was restored to a State Park that opened in 1999. Most of the site lies within the 25-year flood plain of the Meramec River. The population within a 1/2-mile radius of the site is approximately 2,000 and includes the community of Crescent and a portion of Eureka. The site is located in a mixed-use residential and agricultural area.

### **Site Responsibility:**

This site is being addressed through Federal, State, and potentially responsible parties' actions.

### **NPL LISTING HISTORY**

**Proposed Date:** 03/04/83

**Final Date:** 09/08/83

**Deleted Date:**

## THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

The on-site surface soils along the roadways are contaminated with dioxin. Human exposure to dioxin was initially controlled by the evacuation of the residents and access restrictions to the Times Beach site. On-site workers, security guards, and trespassers could be exposed to dioxin through direct contact or accidental ingestion of dioxin-contaminated soil currently in interim storage.

## CLEANUP APPROACH

### Response Action Status

**Stabilization:** The remedies selected by the EPA in 1984 to stabilize Times Beach included construction of a series of spur levees to control water velocity during flooding and limit erosion of contaminated soils. In 1985, the EPA raised an existing levee constructed by the Missouri Highway Department as the first phase in the construction of the three-phase spur levee. In 1989, the second and third phases of the spur levee were completed. **Soil, Structures, and Debris:** This phase of the cleanup included excavation and thermal treatment of contaminated soil and the final disposal of structures and debris. Cleanup activities included: demolition and disposal of uncontaminated structures and debris at Times Beach in a facility meeting solid waste disposal requirements; construction of a ring levee to protect a temporary thermal treatment unit from a 100-year flood; mobilization of a temporary transportable thermal treatment unit to Times Beach; excavation of all dioxin-contaminated soils at Times Beach exceeding the levels for protecting human health and the environment; thermal treatment of excavated soils to destroy contaminants; and on-site disposal of treatment residue (ash), in a facility meeting solid waste management requirements. The design and construction activities involved in the demolition and disposal of uncontaminated structures and debris were completed in 1992. Excavation and interim on-site storage of dioxin-contaminated soils pending final treatment was completed in the fall of 1994. Operation of an on-site incineration to treat dioxin-contaminated wastes began in March 1996 and was completed in June 1997. A total of more than 265,000 tons of dioxin-contaminated materials from 27 eastern Missouri dioxin sites were transported to the Times Beach incinerator for treatment. Following operation, the incinerator was demobilized and the site was being restored to a state park.

**Relocation:** This cleanup phase addressed the permanent relocation of residents and businesses and the acquisition of all remaining properties. In 1983, the EPA provided \$30 million to FEMA to conduct this phase of the cleanup. By the end of 1986, all residents were relocated permanently. FEMA has completed the purchase of all remaining properties. FEMA, the State of Missouri, the trustee for the former City of Times Beach, and St. Louis County entered into a four-party contract for permanent relocation. Ownership of the properties has been conveyed to the State, in accordance with the four-party agreement.

**Site Facts:** In 1990, the EPA, the State, and the potentially responsible parties signed a Consent Decree, under which cleanup activities would be conducted at the Times Beach site and 26 other dioxin sites in eastern Missouri. Under the terms of the Consent Decree, the EPA was responsible for excavation and transportation of dioxin-contaminated soils from the 26 eastern Missouri sites to Times Beach. The potentially responsible parties were responsible for the demolition and disposal of structures and debris, operation of the thermal treatment facility, and restoration of the site.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



The Times Beach cleanup has been completed. All residents and businesses were permanently relocated, the purchase of the remaining parcels by FEMA has been completed, and the ownership of the parcels of land has been conveyed to the State of Missouri. The demolition and disposal of the structures at Times Beach has been completed. Excavation of dioxin-contaminated soils, interim placement in temporary on-site storage, and final destruction of site contaminants by incineration has been completed. Thermal treatment of dioxin-contaminated soils from Times Beach and other sites was completed in June 1997, and the site has been restored to a state park.

## SITE REPOSITORY



Superfund Records Center  
901 N. 5th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Mail Stop SUPR  
(913)551-4038

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## REGIONAL CONTACTS

**SITE MANAGER:**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

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**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

**COORDINATOR:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER:**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**STATE CONTACT:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

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## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**STATE:**

MO

0762

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:**

02

**EPA ORGANIZATION:**

SFD-MOKS/SUPR

## MODIFICATIONS